

## NOTES AND NEWS.

PROFESSOR A. A. WRIGHT, of Oberlin College, has published a very useful little pamphlet on "Herbarium-making."

*Garden and Forest* (May 14) contains the description and figure of the rare *Buckleya distichopaylla*, known only to occur at "Paint Rock," on the French Broad.

PARTS 39-43 of *Die natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien* have just appeared, and contain the first parts of *Compositæ*, by Hoffman; of *Euphorbiaceæ*, by Pax; and of *Conjugatæ*, by Wille.

A CATALOGUE of the grasses of the French possessions in China, by M. B. Balansa, is running serially in the *Journal de Botanique*. It contains the descriptions of many new species. With the April issue the number has reached 179.

Mr. W. A. SETCHELL has published a paper on the structure and development of *Tuomeya fluviatilis* Haw. It is a contribution from the cryptogamic laboratory of Harvard University, reprinted from the *Proc. Am. Acad.* A handsome folded plate and a dried specimen accompany the paper.

A VERY interesting address, commemorative of George W. Clinton, was delivered by David F. Day before the Buffalo Historical Society, March 24. It does not present the mere dry details of dates, but in style is a finished oration.

PAUL MAURY'S monograph of the Cyperaceæ of Paraguay includes 87 species, of which 18 are new. The largest genera are *Cyperus* (27 sp.), *Eleocharis* (16), and *Rhynchospora* (11), the great genus *Carex* being represented by only six species.

THE THIRD PAPER on North American Fungi, by A. P. Morgan, continues the order Lycoperdaceæ. The genera *Tylostoma* and *Calvatia* are presented, with a plate illustrating all the species of the former and two species of the latter. Five species of *Tylostoma* are described, two of which are new. *Calvatia* contains eleven species.

DR. DOUGLAS H. CAMPBELL, in *Bulletin of Torrey Botanical Club* (May), has given some interesting studies in cell-division, accompanied by two plates. It is not meant to be a contribution to our knowledge of the subject, but chiefly to call the attention of teachers of botany to the possibility of easily demonstrating this very important subject to their pupils.

THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS of Prof. Lester F. Ward, before the Biological Society of Washington, on the "Course of Biologic Evolution," is a most excellent presentation of that law, the workings of which are so persistently and often wilfully misunderstood. Naturally, Professor Ward's illustrations are suggested by his work in paleobotany. It is printed by the society.

BOTANISTS should not fail to make their summer arrangements include a trip to Indianapolis during the meetings of the American Association, beginning August 19. Inspiration for work is always the result of such a gathering of botanists. Any who are out of the usual channels of information concerning rates, etc., can obtain such information by applying to any of the editors of this journal.

Dr. G. B. DE TONI has retired from the editorship of *Notarisia*, which will be issued hereafter by Dr. D. L. Morenos.

IN THE May number of the *Am. Month. Micro. Jour.* will be found a paper on "A Microscopic Study of the Cotton Plant."

A PORTRAIT and biographical sketch of Dr. C. C. Parry, by C. R. Orcutt, are published in the *West American Scientist* for June.

PROFESSOR L. H. BAILEY has just become editor of the *American Garden*. A more fitting selection could not have been made.

DR. SERENO WATSON has been elected a foreign member of the Linnaean Society. As the number of foreign members is small, the honor is correspondingly great.

PROFESSOR OLIVER has resigned his position as curator of the herbarium at Kew. He has been connected with the herbarium for about thirty years, and will continue to reside at Kew.

DR. MIGULA, who is preparing the *Characeæ* for Rabenhorst's "Kryptogamen-Flora," insists upon their isolated position in the vegetable kingdom, proposing the name *Charophyta* for the group, which contains about 150 species in the whole world.

IN *Pittonia* (ii. 82-90), Dr. C. F. Millspaugh makes a second contribution to our knowledge of N. Am. Euphorbiaceæ. The puzzling *E. serpyllifolia* and its forms are discussed, and presented in a plate. New species are described from Idaho, Arizona, and Texas.

IN BALANSA'S catalogue of Chinese grasses, being published in the *Journal de Botanique*, the current and last installment (May 1) contains descriptions of two new genera, *Brousemichea* (Agrostideæ) and *Massia* (Aveneæ), and several new species. The complete catalogue contains 235 numbers.

IN *Zœ*, for May, Dr. Harkness gives another list of generic names common to Durand and Saccardo. This list contains 15 genera, and is in addition to a former list published in *Bull. Cal. Acad.* i. 176. Only those names are included which are accepted in these great works on Phanerogams and Fungi. We note in the list the American genera *Cladothrix* and *Tipularia*.

THE usual summer school of botany of Harvard University will be conducted this year by Mr. F. W. Ganong, instructor in botany in the college, assisted by Mr. G. J. Pierce, of the Lawrence Scientific School. Mr. A. B. Seymour, assistant in the cryptogamic herbarium, also announces a private class in cryptogamic botany, beginning and closing at the same time. The session this year is from July 2 to July 30.

THE NAMING of mosses by the use of the manual of Lesquereux & James alone has been found to be most difficult by amateurs who have no other aid. Professor Charles R. Barnes has just issued a 72-page pamphlet containing analytic keys to the genera and species of N. Am. mosses. These keys, on the general plan of those in Gray's Manual, will enable students and collectors of mosses, with comparatively little experience, to name correctly most of the species they can collect. A commendable feature of this pamphlet, which is to be frequently consulted, is that it is sewed, not stitched, so as to lie open flat. Single copies can be obtained from the author, at Madison, Wis., for 50 cents.

MRS. E. G. BRITTON has begun to issue from the herbarium of Columbia College sets of the mosses collected by Mr. J. B. Leiberg in northern Idaho and adjacent regions. The first issue comprises 40 species, the majority characteristically western, among which the most noteworthy are the new *Hypnum* (*Thamnium*) *Leibergii* and a striking flagellate form (or perhaps a variety) of *Alsia abietina*. All the specimens are beautifully prepared and supplied with printed labels. Most of the sets will be sent to the larger herbaria, but a few are for sale at the rate of 5 cents per species. In contrast with the only American mosses which have been recently offered for sale, Macoun's Canadian Musci, the neatness, and particularly the accuracy of the labelling, and the low price are noteworthy.

A PROVISIONAL LIST of the plants of the Bahama Islands has been published in *Proc. Philad. Acad.* for 1889 (pp. 349-426). It is arranged for publication (with notes and additions) by Dr. C. S. Dolley, of the Univ. of Penn., but the body of the list is credited to Professor John Gardiner, of the Univ. of Colorado, and L. J. K. Brace, of the Botanical Gardens at Calcutta. It is somewhat refreshing to see the lowest groups presented first and the dicotyledons appearing last. It appears that fully a third of the species may be considered indigenous, the remaining species being in common with Florida and the near lying islands of the West Indies. The list contains 115 families, 410 genera, and 621 species. A third of the families are represented by but one or two species each, another third by 5 species or less; while nearly two-thirds of the genera have but one species. Nearly a third of the species are of economic value. The families are grouped as follows in the order of their importance: Leguminosæ (53 sp.), Euphorbiaceæ (35), Compositæ (32), Gramineæ (32), Rubiaceæ (23), Malvaceæ (18). The largest genera are *Croton*, *Epidendron*, *Euphorbia*, and *Passiflora*, with 8 species each.

THE FOLLOWING comment upon the *Buda* and *Tissa* question, by James Britten, editor of the *Journal of Botany* (London), may be of interest to some: "I have abstained from comment on certain eccentricities of the neo-American school of nomenclature, because I was not willing to occupy the limited space of the *Journal* by again calling attention to the mischievous tendency of innovations which have been already sufficiently exposed. But, as the question of priority connected with the above synonyms of *Spergularia* affects the naming of British plants, it may be well to call attention to the grounds on which *Buda* (revived by Dumortier in 1827) is superseded by *Tissa* (revived by Prof. E. L. Greene in 1888)." The writer then quotes from the GAZETTE review of the new Manual by Dr. Trelease (xv. 73) what is there said in reference to *Buda* and *Tissa*, and proceeds as follows: "As I have already pointed out in this *Journal* the two names occur on the same page of Adanson's 'Famille des Plantes,' so that the 'birthright' of the two is equal, and neither can claim priority; while the objectionable 'increase in the number of synonyms' is due, not to Dr. Watson, but to Dr. Britton, who deliberately ignored Dumortier's restoration, sixty years before, of a name having equal claims with that preferred by himself."—*Journal of Botany*, for May.